

## THE MAN ON THE BOX

HAROLD MAC GRATH

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I. Introduces My Hero.

If you will carefully observe any map of the world that is divided into inches at so many miles to the inch, you will be surprised as you calculate the distance between that eachanting Paris of France and the third precinct police station of Washington, D. C., which is not enchanting. It is several thousand miles. Again, if you will take the pains to run your glance, no doubt discerning, over the police | blotter at the court (and frankly, I refuse to tell you the exact date of this whimsical adventure), you will note with even greater surprise that all this hubbub was caused by no crime against the commonwealth of the republic or against the person of any of its conglomerate people. The blotter reads, in heavy simple fist, "disorderly conduct," a phrase which is almost as embracing as the word diplomacy, or society,

or respectability. far as my knowledge goes, there is no such a person as James Osborne. If, by any unhappy chance, he does exist. I trust that he will pardon the civil law of Washington, my own measure of familiarity, and the uestionable taste on the part of my hero-hero, because, from the rise to the fall of the curtain, he occupies the center of the stage in this little comedy drama, and because authors have yet to find a happy synonym for the word. The name James Osborne was given for the simple reason that it was the first that occurred to the culprit's mind, so desperate an effort did he make to hide his identity. Supposing, for the sake of an argument in his favor, supposing he had said John Smith or William Jones or John Brown? To this very day he would have been hiring lawyers to extricate him from libel and false representation suits. Besides, had he given any of these names, would not that houndlike scent of the ever suspicious police have been aroused?

To move round and round in the circle of commonplace, and then to pop out of it like a tailed comet! Such is the history of many a man's life. I have a near friend who went away from town one fall, happy and contented with his lot. And what do you suppose he found when he returned home? He had been nominated for alderman. It is too early to predict the fate of this unhappy man. And what tools fate uses with which to carve out her devious peculiar patterns! An Apache In-dian, besmeared with brilliant greases and smelling of the water that never freezes, an understudy to Cupid? Fudge! you will say, or Pshaw! or whatever slang phrase is handy and prevalent at the moment you

I personally warn you that this is a really-truly story, though I do not under-take to force you to believe it; neither do I purvey many grains of salt. If truth went about her affairs laughing, how many more persons would turn and listen! For my part, I believe it all nonsense the way artists have pictured truth. The idea is pretty enough, but so far as hitting things. t recalls the woman, the stone and the hen. I am convinced that truth goes about dressed in the dowdlest of clothes, with black-lisle gloves worn at the fingers, and shoes run down in the heels, an exact portrait of one of Phil May's lydies. Thus it is that we pass her by, for the artistic sense in every being is repelled at the sight of a dowdy with weeping eyes and a nose of a dowdy with weeping eyes and a nose that has been rubbed till it is as red as a winter apple. Anyhow, if she does go about in beautiful nudity, she ought at least to in beautiful nudity, she ought at least to is that the great newspahonor, got my name in the great newspahonor in the control of the call of the call

clothe herself with smiles and laughter. There are sorry enough things in the world as it is, without a lachrymal, hypochon-driacal truth poking her face in everywhere. Not many months ago, while seated on the stone veranda in the rear of the Metropolitan Club in Washington (I believe we were discussing the merits of some very old product). I recounted some of the lighter chapters of this adventure.

"Eempossible!" murmured the Russian at-tache, just as if the matter had not come

under his notice semi-officially.

I presume that this exclamation disclosed another side of diplomacy, which, stripped of its fine clothes, means dexterity in hiding secrets and in negotiating lies. When one diplomat believes what another says it is time for the former's government to send him packing. However, the Englishman at him packing. However, the Englishman at my right gazed smilingly into his partly emptied glass and gently stirred the ice. I admire the English diplomat; he never wastes a lie. He is frugal and saving.

"But the newspapers!" cried the journal-t. "They never ran a line; and an exploit like this would scarce have escaped them. "If I remember rightly, it was reported in the regular police items of the day," said I. "Strange that the boys didn't look behind

"Oh, I don't know," remarked the congressman; "lots of things happen of which you are all ignorant. The public mustn't know everything.

"But what's the hero's name?" asked the journalist. "That's a secret," I answered. "Besides, when it comes to the bottom of the matter, I had something to do with the sup-

pressing of the police news. In a case like this suppression becomes a law not excelled by that which governs self-preservation. My friend has a brother in the War Department, and together we worked wonders."
"It's a jolly droll story, however you look at it," the Englishman admitted.

"Nevertheless, it had its tragic side; but that is even more than ever a secret. illuminated at night, and his scrutiny went

a lover.

"As all womankind loves a love story," the Englishman added. "You ought to be very successful with the ladies," turning to "Not inordinately; but I shall not fail to

repeat your epigram," and I rose.

My watch told me that it was half after 8; and one does not receive every day an invitation to a dinner-dance at the Chevy

I dislike exceedingly to intrude my own I dislike exceedingly to intrude my own personality into this narrative, but as I was passively concerned I do not see how I can avoid it. Besides, being a public man, I am not wholly averse to publicity; first person,

For five weeks he languished in the hosavoid it. Besides, being a public man, I am not wholly averse to publicity; first person, singular, perpendicular, as Thackeray had it, in type looks rather agreeable to the eye. And I rather believe that I have a moral to point out and a parable to expound.

My appointment in Washington at that time was extraordinary; that is to say, I was a member of one of those commit-tees that are born frequently and suddenly in Washington, and which die al-most immediately after registration in the wital statistics of national politics. I had been sent to Congress, a dazzling halo over my head, the pride and hope of my little country town; I had been defeated for second term; had been recommended to serve on the committee aforesaid; served with honor, got my name in the great newspa-

about all I am willing to say about myself.

As for this hero of mine, he was the handsomest, liveliest rascal you would expect
to meet in a day's ride. By handsome I do
not mean perfect features, red cheeks. Byronic eyes, and so forth. That style of
beauty belongs to the department of lady novelists. I mean that peculiar manly beauty which attracts men almost as powerfully as it does women. For the sake of a name I shall call him Warburton. His given name in actual life is Robert. But I am afraid that nobody but his mother and one other woman eve. called him Robert. The world at large dubbed him Bob, and such he will remain up to that day (and may it be many years hence!) when recourse will be had to Robert, because "Bob" would certainly look very silly on

a marble shaft.
What a friendly sign is a nickname! 1 what a friendly sign is a nickname! It is always a good fellow who is called Bob or Bill, Jack or Jim, Tom, Dick or Harry. Even out of Theodore there comes a Teddy. I know in my own case the boys used to call me Chuck, simply because I was named Charles. (I haven't the slightest doubt that I was named Charles because my good mother thought I looked some-thing like Vandyke's Charles I, though at the time of my baptism I wore no beard whatever). And how I hated a boy with a high-sounding, unnicknamable given name!
—with his round white collar and his long, glossy curls! I dare say he hated the name, the collar and the curls even more than I did. Whenever you run across a name carded in this stilted fashion, "A. Thingumy Soandso," you may make up your mind at once that the owner is ashamed of his first name and is trying manfully to live it down and eventually forgive his

parents.

Warburton was graduated from West Warburton was graduated from West Point, ticketed to a desolate frontier post, and would have worn out his existence there but for his guiding star, which was always making frantic efforts to bolt its established orbit. One day he was doing scout duty, perhaps half a mile in advance of the pay train, as they called the picturesque caravan which, consisting of a canopied wagon and a small troop of caractery in dingy blue made progress across cavalry in dingy blue made progress across the desert-like plains of Arizona. The troop was some ten miles from the post, and as there had been no sign of Red Eagle all that day, they concluded that the rumor of his being on a drunken rampage with half a dozen braves was only a rumor. War-burton had just passed over a roll of earth, and for a moment the pay train had drop-ped out of sight. It was twilight; opalescent waves of heat rolled above the blistered sands. A pale yellow sky, like an inverted bowl rimmed with delicate blue and crim-son hues, encompassed the world. The bliss of solitude fell on him, and, being some-thing of a poet, he rose to the stars. The even gravely; but the veranda is only dimly lluminated at night, and his scrutiny went inrewarded.

"Eh, well!" said the Russian; "your philsopher has observed that all mankind loves lover."

At Warburton's left, some hundred yards distant, was a clump of osage brush. Even as he looked, there came a puff of smoke, followed by the evil song of a bullet. My hero's hat was carried away. He wheeled, dug his heels into his horse, and cut back over the trail. There came a second flash, a shock and then a terrible pain in the calf of his left leg. He fell over the neck of his horse to escape the third bullet. He could see the Apache as he stood out from behind the bush. Warburton yanked out

pital. During that time he came to the conclusion that he had had enough of military life in the west. He applied for his discharge, as the compulsory term of service was at an end. When his papers came he was able to get about with the aid of a crutch. One morning his colonel entered his subaltern's bachelor quarters. "Wouldn't you rather have a year's leave of absence, than quit altogether, Warbur

"A year's leave of absence?" cried the invalid. "I am likely to get that, I am."
"If you held a responsible position I dare say it would be difficult. As it is, I may say that I can obtain it for you. It will be months before you can ride a horse with

der and do strange things, and here I've been hampered all these years with routine. I shouldn't care if we had a good fight once

I shouldn't care if we had a good fight once in a while. My poor old dad traveled around the world three times, and I haven't seen anything of it but the maps."

"Go ahead, then. Only, talking about Treasure Island, don't you and your twenty-five thousand run into some old Long John Silver."

"I'll take agen"

"I'll take care." And Mr. Robert packed up his kit and sailed away. Not many months passed ere he met his colonel again, and under rather embarrassing circumstances.

Introduces My Heroine. Let me begin at the beginning. The boat had been two days out of Southampton before the fog cleared away. On the afternoon of the third day Warburton curled up in his steamer chair and lazily viewed the blue October seas as they met and merged with the blue October skies. I do not recollect the popular novel of that summer, but at any rate it lay flapping at the side of his chair, forgotten. It never entered my hero's mind that some poor devil of an author had sweated and labored with infinite pains over every line, and paragraph, and page-labored with all the care and love his heart and mind were capable of, to produce this finished child of fancy; or that this same author, even at this very moment, might be seated on the veranda of his beautiful summer villa, figuring out royalties on the backs of stray envelopes. No. he never thought of these things.

What with the wind and the soft, ceaseless jar of the throbbing engines, half a dream hovered above his head, and touched him with a gentle, insistent caress. If you had passed by him this afternoon, and had been anything of a mathematician who could straighten out geometrical angles could straighten out geometrical angles you would have come close to his height had you stopped at five feet nine. Indeed, had you clipped off the heels of his low shoes you would have been exact. But all your nice calculations would not have solved his weight. He was slender, but he was hard and compact. These hard, slender fellows sometimes weigh more than your men of greater bulk. He tipped the scales at one hundred sixty-two, and he looked twenty pounds less. He was twentyeight; a casual glance at him, and you would have been willing to wager that the loy of casting his first vote was yet to be

The princess demands that I describe in detail the charms of this army Adonis. Far be it that I should disobey so august a command, being, as I am, the prime miniscommand, being, as I am, the prime minis-ter in this her principality of Domestic Fe-licity. Her brother has never ceased to be among the first in her dear regard. He possessed the merriest black eyes; his mother's eyes, as I, a boy, remember them. No matter how immobile his features might be, these eyes of his were ever ready for laughter. His nose was clean-cut and shapely. A phrenologist would have said that his head did not lack the hours of courters but I have the ologist would have said that his head did not lack the bump of caution; but I know better. At present he wore a beard; so this is as large an inventory of his personal attractions as I am able to give. When he shaves off his beard I shall be pleased to add further particulars. I often marvel that the women did not turn his head. They were always sending him notes and invitations and cutting dances for him. Perhamitons tions and cutting dances for him. Perhaps | motion that was not horse flesh.

the word. I don't want to lose you, lad. You're the only man around here who likes a loke as well as I do. And you will have here in the well as I do. And you will have a loke as well as I do. And you will have a loke as well as I do. And you will have well as I have yee or other, even at the well have you will have a loke of the month of the well have you will have a loke of the month of the well have you will not the present that a little game was in progress and that his money was needed to keep it shuffle off in its north off new scenery before I shuffle off in the first saw her. And now, here are always full of sand. I am off to general the well have been in Paris that he first saw her. And now, here a lawst here as the thought have been in Paris that he first saw her. And now, here yees, so I am positive that the first saw her. And now, here were always full of sand. I am off to general the lotter of the was at last, homeward-bound. T



"I BEG YOUR PARDON!" HE SAID, SITTING UP.

you may buy a whole village for ten dollars? Warburton seldom drank, and, like the author of this precious volume, only special vintages. At this particular moment this hero of mine was going over the monotony of the

indifferent skirmishes with cattlemen and Indians; the pagan bullet which had plowed through his leg. And now it was all over; he had surrendered his straps; he was a She was coming forward, leaning against private citizen, with an income sufficient for his needs. It will go a long way, fortyfive hundred a year, if one does not at-tempt to cover the distance in a fivethousand motor-car; and he hated all loco-

with eagerness.
"It is She!" he murmured. He closed his eyes again, the hyprocrite!

Permit me to introduce you to my heroine.

Mind you, she is not my creation; only Heaven may produce her like, and but once. old days in Arizona, the sand-deserts, the unlovely landscapes, the dull routine, the at. Indeed I know more than one fine gen-

> the wind and inclining to the uncertain roll of the ship. A gray rain coat fitted snugly the youthful rounded figure. Her hands were plunged into the pockets. You may be sure that Mr. Robert noted through of man: all the good, all the evil, in the his half-closed eyelids these inconsequent details. A tourist hat sat jauntily on the (To be continued Monday.)

ment. What man ever troubled himself about the height of a woman, so long as he wasn't undersized himself. What pleased Warburton was the exquisite skin. He was always happy with his comparisons, and methodately when he likened her skin

Paris that he he was at last, homeward-both he was at last, homeward-both he was to the ear what honey is to the tongue. Still, he might yet have been in Paris but for one thing: She was on board this very boat.

Suddenly his eyes opened full wide, bright

Suddenly his eyes opened full wide, bright

Suddenly his eyes opened full wide, bright

Paris that he was at last, homeward-both he was at last, homeward-both he was not the exquision was the exquision was the exquision was always happy with his comparisons, and particularly when he likened her skin to the bloomy olive pallor of a young pushingly American. Ah, the charm of these women who are my countrywomen! an amiable frame of mind Nature must have been on the day she cast these molds! But I proceed. The young woman's chin was tilted, and Warburton could tell by the dilated nostrils that she was breathing in the gale with all the joy of living, filling her healthy lungs with it as that rare daughter of the Cyprian Isle might have done as she sprang that morn from the jeweled Mediterranean spray, that beggar's

brooch of Neptune's. Warburton's heart hadn't thrilled so since the day when he first donned cadet gray. There was scarce any room for her to pass between his chair and the rail; and this knowledge filled the rascal with exultation. Nearer and nearer she came. He drew in his breath sharply as the corper of his foot-rest (aided by the sly wind)

caught her raincoat.
"I beg your pardon!" he said, sitting up.
She quickly released her coat, smiled

faintly, and passed on.
Sometimes the most lasting impressions are those which are printed most lightly on the memory. Mr. Robert says that he never will forget that first smile. And he didn't even know her name then.

I was about to engage your attention with a description of the villain, but on second thought I have decided that it would be rather unfair. For at that moment he was at a disadvantage. Nature was punishing him for a few shortcomings. The steward that night informed Warburton, in answer to his inquiries, that he, the villain, was dreadfully seasick, and was begging him, the steward, to scuttle the ship and have done with it. I have my doubts regarding this. Mr. Robert is inclined to flippancy at times. It wasn't sea-sickness; and after all is said and done, it is putting it harshly to call this man a villain. I recant. True villainy is always based upon selfishness. Remember this, my wise ones.

Warburton was somewhat subdue! when he learned that the suffering gentleman

was her father.
"What did you say the name was?" he asked innocently. Until now he hadn't had the courage to put the question to any one, or to prowl around the purser's books.

"Annesley; Colonel Annesley and daughter," answered the unsuspecting steward. Warburton knew nothing then of the mental tragedy going on behind the colonel's stateroom door. How should be have known? On the contrary, he believed that the father of such a girl must be a most knightly and courtly gentle-man. He was, in all outward appearance. There had been a time, not long since, when he had been knighted and courted in all things. Surrounding every upright man there is

a mire, and if he steps not wisely, he is lest. There is no coming back; step by step he must go on and on, till he van-ishes, and a bubble rises over where he but lately stood. That he misstepped inno-cently does not matter; mire and evil have neither pity nor reason. To spend what is not ours and then try to recover it, to hide the guilty step: this is futility. From the alpha men have made this step; to the omega they will make it, with the same unchanging futility. After all, it is money. Money is the root of all evil; let him laugh who will, in his heart of heavis he know it. hearts he knows it.

Money! Have you never heard that siren call to you, call seductively from her rag-ged isle, where lurk the reefs of greed and selfishness? Money! What has this siren not to offer? Power, ease, glory, luxury; aye, I had almost said love! But, no; love is the gift of God, money is the invention

FIG. 1-CONSTELLATIONS MARCH 1. (Hold back of map to the sky.)

# HEAVENS IN MARCH

Gradual Transformation as the Seasons Change

SIMPLE EXPLANATION wise the daytime.

NEW SATELLITE OF JUPITER RE-CENTLY DISCOVERED.

Sun's Motion Among the Stars - An Annular Eclipse-Planets of

the Month. Written for The Evening Star by Prof. Eric Doo-

As spring approaches the winter constellations are steadily sinking lower and lower in the western heavens. The brilliant group Taurus with the Pleiades and Hyades has now drawn so near the sun that it remains above the horizon for only a few hours after sunset, the magnificent Orion is low in the southwest, and the milky way, which in mid-winter formed a beautiful arch passing exactly overhead, now lies much nearer the ground in the west and is

far less conspicuous than it has been. This gradual transformation of the face of the sky as the months pass away is most interesting and impressive. Probably every one has noticed that the stars which are visible in winter are not the same as those which are seen in summer, or at least that certain groups or the milky way are sometimes visible and sometimes not. The reason why this is so is not nearly so general-

the half which is above the ground, but were the earth transparent so that we could look down through the ground, and were the light of the sun blotted out, we should see ourselves surrounded by stars in every direction; that is, we should see the entire celestial sphere with all of the constella ions at once, both those of summer and o

The half of the celestial sphere which is above the ground in the daytime is invisible to us simply because of the overpowering brightness of the sun; when the light of this body is cut off by an eclipse or by descent into a deep mine or other-wise the stars become visible even in the

Figure 1 shows the half of the sphere which is now above the ground in the early evening. The sun in its yearly jouracross this map. It will move along the path marked A-B and blot out the constellations one after another as it comes to them. Thus in midsummer it will have reached the constellation Gemini; as can be seen from the map, it will then be high up in the sky and the constellation Gemini and the sun will both set at the same time. Evidently at that time the consame time. Evidently at that time the con-stellations Cancer and Leo will be low down in the west at sunset, while the smaller constellations to the left of B, (which are not shown on the map), will be due south. The sun will reach the point C and pass below the equator on the 22d of September. On the 21st of March it is at a point exactly opposite to C on the celestial sphere it then crosses the equator in its upward motion among the stars and at this in-

### stant spring begins. The Late Winter Stars.

The constellation Cancer, or the Crab, which is just east of Gemini, can readily be traced out from the map. It is one of the faintest constellations of the zodiac and was hence called in ancient times the Dark Sign and quaintly described as black and without eyes. Yet few groups have



while in general it was considered a constellation of misfortune and ill omen.
The stars marked E and D are both beautiful doubles in a small telescope, and the observers should not fail to examine the curious cloud-like mass at P, which even in an opera glass is seen to be made up of more than a hundred stars packed closely

To the east of the Cancer is the beautiful constellation Leo, or the Lion, the western half of which is often called the Sickle. One of the most remarkable peculiarities of this group is the large number of double stars which it contains, though unfortunately most of these are not visible in a very small telescope. Those marked F and H are, however, beautiful objects even with a small glass, while the stars marked K and L are true dcuble systems, made up of two mmense suns revolving about one an-

This is the best time of the year to trace out the whole of the constellation Ursa Major, or the Great Dipper, for the giant southern half of this large group is well up in the sky. The star marked M has a naked eye companion, which in early times was used by the Arabs as a test of penetrating vision. Among the other stars many beautiful doubles will be found with a small

New Satellite of Jupiter.

Jupiter, the most beautiful of all the planets, is so rapidly drawing near the sun that it will not be visible much longer. In a small telescope the enormous ball, more than 86,000 miles in diameter, is seen to be encircled by numerous greenish and rosecolored bands, while near by are the four bright moons. The planet turns completely around in less than four hours, and the moons move around the planet with great rapidity, so that even from hour to the appearance of the system is constantly

changing. In 1897 Prof. Barnard, then of the Lick bservatory, announced the discovery of a fifth moon to Jupiter, an excessively faint little attendant, which is nearer to the planet than any of the other four. And on



Fig. 3-Path of the Annular Eclipse of the Sun March 5.

from this same observatory that a sixth satellite had been discovered. The new moon is of the fourteenth magnitude, and is hence exceedingly faint. It is further away from the planet than any of the others, and it is very remarkable that it re-volves about the planet in an opposite di-rection from that of the other satellites. In this it resembles the recently discovered ninth satellite of Saturn. It is exceedingly probable from this retrograde motion that the new moon did not originally belong to the system, but was captured, just as comets are sometimes captured and forced to move around the sun.

### Comets.

There are three very faint comets now visible; the position of one of these on March 1 is marked on the map at R. A new comet, so bright as to be visible even in a four-inch telescope, was discovered by Borelly on December 29, 1004. It was in the constellation Cetus and was moving rapidly through Pisces toward Aries. Its path from December 29 to January 3 is shown, but unfortunately its position during March cannot yet be predicted.

shown in Figure 2, the ring of intensely bright sunlight being visible entirely around the disc of the moon. Figure 3 shows the position of the earth from which this eclipse may be seen. To all persons who are within the narrow strip A B the moon will appear to pass entirely

onto the disc of the sun. To those who are near this strip anywhere within the dotted area C M N the eclipse will be visible as a partial eclipse only. The Planets. Venus is now the most brilliant object of the sky, and it will grow continually brighter during the month. On the 15th it

will look like the moon when about five

days old, but by the 31st it will be a very

narrow crescent. Neptune is in the constellation Gemini, in most excellent position for observation with a small-sized telescope.

Saturn has passed beyond the sun and cannot be seen, while Mars still rises too late in the evening and is too far from the earth to be satisfactorily observed.

### WOULDN'T GROW.

The Trouble Was That the Seeds Had Been Boiled.

Several years ago Uncle Sam was 'snagged" by as sharp a swindler as ever swindled, and who afterward managed in some clever manner to keep without the precincts of the penitentiary. The sharper in this particular case worked his wiles on the authorities of the Department of Agriculture, it is stated, and put the free garden seed division of that department in bad odor with numerous agriculturists for many moons thereafter.

He was a grafter from Graftsburg, this fellow was, and his particular graft was boiled tomato seed. He conceived the brilliant idea of furnishing the Department of Agriculture with large quantities of these seeds from the vegetable canneries of Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey, representing them to be the fresh product of the tomato vine and excellent

for propagating purposes. The fact that the tomato seeds had passed through boiling water in the process of canning and were therefore practically cooked and rendered unproductive did not bear a feather's weight on the fellow's conscience, for was not Uncle Sam regarded as common prey for all manner of grafters. He was backed by influence and

the government bought liberal quantities of his boiled seeds. When these were sent out in little manila envelopes broadcast by members of Congress and others to farmers and even back yard gardeners in all parts of the land, labeled "Early Duchess Tomato Seeds," with full directions for planting, the government agents acted in perfect good faith. But at the expiration of the proper period and tomato vines failing to rear their heads from the soil where the cooked seed had been planted, there arose a howl long, loud and bitter. The tomato crop is said to have been short that season, and so many protests were hurled at the Department Agriculture by the injured ones that it be came necessary, old employes say, to establish a new division temporarily in the department, known as "the division of pro-tests and tomato seed inquiry," and for a time it was the busiest branch in the building of agriculture.

### A Mean Trick.

"About as mean a trick as I have heard of for many days," remarked an official of the War Department, "was perpetrated by a young officer of the army who was court-martialed a few weeks ago for a series of flagrant offenses against the moral code and sent to the military prison at Fort Leavenworth for two years, in addition to being dismissed in disgrace. Up to the time of his downfall he was a very popular fellow and a special favorite with the fair sex. Well, while visiting two young ladies one evening he managed to purloin their pocket books, containing all their pin money, and with the money thus obtained took them both to the theater the next evening, and then to a supper. That their host was using their money never en-

Entertainment for Visiting Police Officials

DURING INAUGURAL

NATIONAL BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION.

More Than 40,000 Photographs, With Bertillon Measurements-Can Spot the Bad Ones.

It is expected that there will be more police officials here at the coming inauguration than ever before, and every one will probably call at police headquarters to pay his respects to Major Sylvester. While the superintendent of police will have his hands full and will be able to spare but little time to the entertainment of his visitors, he will be able to have them entertained in the headquarters of the national bureau of criminal identification. This bureau has its headquarters on the top floor at police headquarters, where there are something over 40,000 pictures of criminals to be seen. It was largely due to the efforts of Major Sylvester that this bureau has become a fixture and is doing a great work in the matter of assisting police departments all over the country in the work of identifying people after they have been placed under arrest. Congress has been asked to make the bu reau a government institution, but favorable action on the bill has not yet been taken. Membership in the bureau comprises the leading police officials and private de-tectives, as well as United States agencies. Although Congress has not yet seen fit to make the bureau a part of the Department of Justice, those who compose the board of governors are going ahead with the work and increasing the value of its collection and broadening the scope of its work. Major Sylvester is treasurer of the board and takes a deep interest in the work of the bureau. Edward A. Evans, formerly of Chicago, is superintendent of the bureau, and it is due to his conduct of the affairs of the bureau that so many identifications have

been made for the departments in all sec-tions of the country. Mr. Evans was with the bureau in Chicago before so much interest was taken in the work, and was made superintendent after the effects had been removed to this city. He takes a great in-terest in the work of the bureau and has been the means of greatly improving the value of the work. value of the work.

The bureau is conducted under the direction of Major Sylvester, the resident member of the board, who had it moved here from Chicago shortly after the holding of

# from Chicago shortly after the holding of the annual convention in New Orleans. It was due to the efforts of Major Sylvester that the organization had an interesting exhibit at the St. Louis exposition. Super-intendent Evans accompanied the exhibit to the exposition and remained there until Exhibits From Other Cities.

In addition to the effects of the bureau, Major Sylvester has received many of the exhibits from other cities and some from foreign countries. Many of these exhibits from seat to top of head; cheek bones, are now covering the walls at police headquarters and the room of the bureau. They are being arranged in an attractive way in order that the inaugural visitors may be afforded an opportunity to inspect them. The bulletin system of aiding in the work has been adopted by the resident member of the board and is greatly facilitating the work of the bureau. The scope of the work Annular Eclipse of the Sun.

Sun's Motion Among the Stars.

It should be remembered that the earth is but a small particle, as it were but a grain of dust in the immensity of Space.

The celestial sphere surrounds it on all sides by the celestial sphere surrounds it on extend the can be no doubt concerning its value. Additions are one of the Sun.

The astronomical event of the year will be their host was using their money never enther their heads until some time after work of the burat. The scope of the work of the burat. The scope of the work of the burat of their heads until some time after wither their heads until some time after an extend for such an extend their heads until some time after their heads until some time after

without government aid. It is the idea of those connected with the bureau that with the proper backing on the part of the gov-ernment it could be made a valuable insti-tution in the matter of tracing anarchists. With the bureau under government control, it is thought, it would be but a few months before a book could be issued giving the names of people of the dangerous class, and also telling of their abode. The bureau could keep in close touch with this dangerous class of criminals and it is thought. gerous class of criminals, and, it is thought, might be able to save the life of some person who had been selected for assassina-

### Objects of the Bureau.

The objects of the bureau are fully set out in the bill which was prepared by Major Sylvester. This provides that the work shall be done under the direction of the Department of Justice, and shall be a division to be known as the national bureau of criminal identification, where shall be collected and filed, so far as may be practicable, for record and report, plates, photographs, outline pictures, descriptions and measurements of all persons who have been or may be convicted and imprisoned for yielding any of the military parallel. for violating any of the military, navai or riminal laws of the United States, including the laws in force in any of the territories or possessions of the United States, violations of which are punishable by the

United States courts. The bill also explains that there shall also be collected and filed for record and report, so far as may be practicable, such plates, photographs, pictures, measurements and descriptions of persons who may have been or may be convicted and imprisoned for crimes committed in any state or territory: "Provided, That the author-lties of the several states and territories, or municipalities thereof, shall provide the same for such purpose. And provided, That all such plates, photographs, outlines, measurements and descriptions shall be transmitted to the superintendent of said national bureau of criminal identification, with a duly prepared certificate from an authorized officer or officers of the law having in charge such convicted person or persons. And provided, The plate, photograph, outline, measurement or description of any person wanted by the United States or state authorities for violation of any military, naval or criminal law of the United States or any state may also be filed in said bureau as aforesaid."

### Finger Print Method.

It is more than likely that the association will adopt the finger-print method of identification to be used in conjunction with the Bertillon system. The fingerprint system was adopted by the British government in 1896, and they now have on file over 80,000 descriptions of criminals taken under this system. It has also been established by the French government and they are operating it in conjunction with the Bertillon system. The Austrian and Japanese governments are also employing this system as a means of identify-ing criminals. The superintendent of state prisons of New York, Mr. C. V. Collins, has recently adopted the finger-print sys-

method. It is claimed that this method simplifies the matter of taking descriptions and can be done without any great expenditure. An outfit, it is stated, costs less than one

The Bertillon system is one with which most police officials in the United States are familiar. It includes measurements of parts of the body as follows: Head, two measurements, length and width; foot, length of left foot only; ear, length of right ear only; forearm, length of left forearm only (elbow to large finger end); fingers, length of large finger and small finger, left hand only; arms, outstretched (or reach), height, in bare feet; trunk, length of body

"By securing these measurements of an individual, together with an accurate description of the features, nose, forehead, chin, etc., color of the hair and eyes, and the exact location, size and description of marks and scars, a criminal's record can be filed in such a manner that he cannot es-cape identification at any future time,"

width.

basis. This, however, can hardly be done graph, however, is taken and placed on the card with his description, to meet any occa-sion where it might be an advantage.

### How System Works.

"In a collection of 40,000 criminal photographs how would it be possible to find an individual's former record without his measurements? His name he gives differently each time arrested, so that an index is of little or no value; his face or photograph might lead to his former card of record, but the work of looking over 40,000 faces precludes any attempt to find him in

this way. "The Bertillon measurements, however, enable the dividing and classifying of a collection of descriptions so that the work of looking for an individual in a collection of 40,000 descriptions occupies only a few moments. For example, 40,000 descriptions by the Bertillon method are classified as follows: About 13,000 of such a number will have small-sized heads and about 13,000 have large-sized heads; the balance of the 40,000 will have medium-sized heads. Thus, by securing the measurement of an indi-vidual's head, the figures at once tell whether he will be found in the division of 13,000 small heads, in the division of 13,000 large heads or in the division of 14,000 me dium-sized heads.

"In other words, by having the size of his head we are saved the work of looking over 27,000 cards, for if we know by the size or measurement that he is in the small heads we need not look through the medium and large divisions. Upon this principle each other measurement taken enables a still further division or classification. The small heads (in length) are subdivided or classified into three divisions of the head width, or about 4,000 small head widths, 4,000 large head widths and 5,000 medium head widths; the large and medium heads (in length) being subdivided in the same manner; thus it will be seen that with two measurements (the head length and head width), we are saved the trouble of looking through 35,000 cards. Each head-width division is subdivided by three divisions of the finger, each finger division by three divisions of the foot; each foot division by three divisions of the

forearm, etc.
Without any measurements it would be necessary to look over 40,000 faces; with one measurement it is necessary to look over only 13,000; with two measurements only about 4,000; with three measurements only about 1,500; with four measurements only about 500; with five measurements only about 150; with six measurements only about fifty; with seven measurements only

about fifteen cards.

The principle of this subdividing of measurements might be more clearly under-stood by taking an individual's height as the basis for the first division; in 40,000 descriptions, for example, say, the small division would include all subjects up to 5 feet 5 inches in height, the medium division having subjects from 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 8 inches, and the large division having those above 5 feet 8 inches; in looking for a subject measuring 5 feet 10 inches in a collection of 40,000 the search would be confined to the large division of 13,000 or subjects from 5 feet 8 inches up, thus saving a search through a collection of 13,000 small men and 14,000 medium men,"

### LOST HIS BET.

Couldn't Get a Civil Answer to a Civil

A couple of strangers from the rural district were loitering on one of Georgetown's principal thoroughfares this week, and accosted a well-dressed young man coming down the street wearing an expression of unconcern.

"Say, will you tell us," said one of them, which is the best way to get to the Capitol from here?" "Well," replied the young man, sharply,

"the best way, of course, is to take an automobile or an airship, but at the worst you can take the street car."
"Much obliged," said one of the men. "I was so certain from your appearance that you would give a civil answer to a civil question I bet a \$2 bill with my friend here, and there is unmistakable proof that I have

lost. You can't always judge from appear